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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/010,104	NARAYANAN, AJITH KUMAR	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John H. Le	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendment filed 03/22/2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30 and 31.
3. The drawings filed on 08 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
 of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed 03/22/2005 has been entered and carefully considered.

Claims 1, 11, 21, 24, 27, and 30 have been amended.

Claims 17-20, 23, 26, and 29 have been cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The applicant has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 25, line 3, in the end of claim 25, inserted –—.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-16, 21-22, 24-25, 27-28, and 30-31 are allowed.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

In combination with other limitations of claim, the cited prior arts fails to teach the at least one of the selecting device further includes pointing indicia for pointing to target device in alignment to the pointing axis, as recited in the amended claim(s) 1, 11, and 21.

In combination with other limitations of claim, the cited prior arts fails to teach the controller device is configured to determine if the targets are within an angular window along the pointing axis, as recited in the amended claim(s) 24, 27, and 30.

US Patent No. 4,959,721 discloses a remote control system, particularly for television sets, includes a remote control receiver and a remote control transmitter. The receiver and transmitter are switched to the menu mode by means of a menu key. At least two menu fields are associated with the remote control receiver and are displayed on the screen of the television set. The menu fields are individually selectable by means of the remote control transmitter. The selection is preferably accomplished by manually aligning the remote control transmitter with the displayed menu field to be selected. '721 fails to specify the device network comprising a pointing axis along which the selecting device is aligned when selecting the one or more target devices, wherein at least one of the selecting device further includes pointing indicia for pointing to target device in alignment to the pointing axis, as now recited in claims 1, 11, and 21 of the present invention. '721 also fails to specify the device network comprising a pointing axis along which the selecting device is aligned when selecting the one or more target devices, wherein the controller device is configured to determine if the targets are within an angular window along the pointing axis, as now recited in claims 24, 27, and 30 of the present invention.

US Patent No. 6,640,337 (WO 0133838 A) discloses a digital television (DTV) system includes a remote controller, which generates X- and Y-axis position data; and an electronic program guide (EPG) controller which receives position data responsive

to the X- and Y-axis position data, which generates character data responsive to the position data, which searches EPG data for character strings approximating the character data to thereby generate search results, and which outputs the search results to the screen of the DTV. According to one aspect of the DTV system, the remote controller generates the X- and Y-axis position data responsive to movement of the remote controller. This movement can be determined by either accelerometers or a gyroscope included in the remote controller. According to another aspect of the invention, the X- and Y-axis position data can be generated by a pointing device, which can be either a touch panel or a trackball. '337 fails to specify the device network comprising a pointing axis along which the selecting device is aligned when selecting the one or more target devices, wherein at least one of the selecting device further includes pointing indicia for pointing to target device in alignment to the pointing axis, as now recited in claims 1, 11, and 21 of the present invention. '337 also fails to specify the device network comprising a pointing axis along which the selecting device is aligned when selecting the one or more target devices, wherein the controller device is configured to determine if the targets are within an angular window along the pointing axis, as now recited in claims 24, 27, and 30 of the present invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Art Unit: 2863

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John H Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2275. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Barlow can be reached on 571-272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

John H. Le
Patent Examiner-Group 2863
March 31, 2005



MICHAEL NGHIEM
PRIMARY EXAMINER